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EXAMINER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 2419

Attachment to item 11:

Regarding claims 21, 26, applicant argues reference Aggarwal et al. does not disclose or suggest classifying a received packet based on at least a first field value contained in a header of the packet and associating one of a plurality of forwarding tables to the packet according to its classification. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Examiner contends reference Aggarwal et al. teaches classifying a received packet based on at least a first field value contained in a header of the packet and associating one of a plurality of forwarding tables to the packet according to its classification.

Examiner interpreted based on at least a first field value contained in a header of the packet as the destination address in the header, see Aggarwal, col. 5, lines 1 – 8, see also lines 42 – 52, and interpreted associating one of a plurality of forwarding tables to the packet according to its classification as Using these two tables, the Routing Table and the Forwarding Table, later more fully discussed, a datagram that enters the network can thus be forwarded to the eventual destination by examining the datagram header and looking up the Forwarding Table to find the next interface to which to send the datagram, see Aggarwal, col. 5, lines 1 – 8, see also lines 42 – 52.

Regarding claim 10, Applicant argues Independent claim 10 is directed to a method of configuring a networking device. The method includes generating a first forwarding table; generating a second forwarding table; programming a filter to perform a lookup operation in the first forwarding table if a first field value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions; and programming the filter to initiate a lookup operation in the second forwarding table if the first field value does not meet one or more conditions of the first set of conditions. Andersson et al. and Hariguchi et al., whether taken alone or in any reasonable combination, do not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Examiner contends the combined system of references Andersson et al. and Hariguchi et al. teach programming a filter to perform a lookup operation in a first

Art Unit: 2419

forwarding table if a first field value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions and programming the filter to initiate a lookup operation in a second forwarding table if the first field value does not meet one or more conditions of the first set of conditions.

Examiner interpreted implicitly claimed subject matter programming a filter to perform a lookup operation in the first forwarding table if a first field value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions as “incoming packet processing logic and label detection logic”, see Andersson et al. col. 1, lines 56 – 66, col. 4, lines 43 – 56, col. 10, lines 22 – 49; Fig. 2, Fig. 11; and programming the filter to initiate a lookup operation in the second forwarding table if the first field value does not meet one or more conditions of the first set of conditions as otherwise the incoming packet processing logic forwards the packet based upon the network layer addressing information....” see Andersson et al. col. 4, lines 56 – 65.

Examiner further interpreted claimed subject matter “programming a filter to initiate a lookup operation in the first forwarding table if a first field value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions” as “the route engine may access any level of table array by using a next level route pointer stored in the routing field”, “when a packet is being routed, the router searches the first table, rt_host, for host routes,... the first table, rt_host, routers use the entire destination IP host address in the incoming packet as a hash key to determine a starting pointer ..” see HARIGUCHI et al; Abstract, col. 2, lines 16 – 22, lines 38 – 44, Fig. 3, col. 5, lines 43 – 54; and “programming the filter to initiate a lookup operation in the second forwarding table if a first field value meets one or more conditions of a second set of conditions” as “the route engine may access any level of table array by using a next level route pointer stored in the routing field”, “when the search of the first table fails to find a host route, the router searches the second table, rt_net, to determine a network route; see HARIGUCHI et al Abstract, col. 2, lines 24 – 35, lines 45 – 57, Fig. 36, col. 5, lines 43 – 54).

Hence the combined system of references Andersson et al. and Hariguchi et al. teach programming a filter to perform a lookup operation in a first forwarding table if a first field value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions and programming the filter to initiate a lookup operation in a second forwarding table if the first field value does not meet one or more conditions of the first set of conditions

Applicant then argues reference Hariguchi et al. do not disclose that the routing table is used to search for a route when a first value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions.

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Examiner contends reference Hariguchi et al. teach the claimed subject matter the routing table is used to search for a route when a first value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions.

Examiner interpreted “the routing table is used to search for a route when a first value of a received packet meets one or more conditions of a first set of conditions” as the route engine may access any level of table array by using a next level route pointer stored in the routing field”, “when a packet is being routed, the router searches the first table, rt_host, for host routes,... the first table, rt_host, routers use the entire destination IP host address in the incoming packet as a hash key to determine a starting pointer ..”; see Hariguchi et al., Abstract, col. 2, lines 16 – 22, lines 38 – 44, Fig. 3, col. 5, lines 43 – 54.

/Andrew C Lee/

Examiner, Art Unit 2419